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WASHINGTON.

THE TEXAS PACIFIC IN NEED OF INVESTI-GATION.

HOW THE SUBSIDY WAS OBTAINED - PROMINENT AGENTS AND BACKERS OF THE SCHEME -ANOTHER CREDIT MOBILIER-A NET THAT WAS TO RAUL THE THIRTY-FOUR MILLION DOLLARS.

PROMA REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.]
WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—Before the Texas Pacific Subsidy bill is brought into the House an investigation of the manner in which the original legislation was procured for the road, and of the operations of the Construction Company that has a contract for building it, would be both timely and interesting. If I am not greatly mistaken the result of such an inquiry would be to bring down a larger throng of leading politicians and Christian statesmen than were laid low by the Crédit Mobilier exposure. A few facts, which do not lie very far be low the surface, and need not be sought for with the drag-nets and mud-hooks of a "smelling committee," are appropriate reading at this time, and may stimulate further research in the directions they in-

The bill chartering the Texas Pacific Railroad Company was passed March 3, 1871, and the line of road specified in it ran over the old route of Gen. Fremont's Memphis and El Paso Road, which had a land grant from the State of Texas obtained before the war. It was for the El Paso Company that Fremont raised the loan in France which created so much scandal. When he came to Congress for a land grant from the western boundary of Texas to San Diego, it was decided to drop the old name, which had a bad odor in foreign money markets, and to call the company the Texas Pacific. A powerful lobby was set at work to put the measure through. The headquarters of the lobby were apparently in the Marshal's office of the Supreme Court of the United States, and its recognized chief was Richard C. Parsons, then Marshal and now Repretentative from the Cieveland, Ohio, District.

THE COEFORATORS AND THEIR SECRET ALLIANCES. In the Senate the powerful champion of the bill was Senator Cameron, and in the House Gen. Butler. About 100 corporators were named in the first section of the bill, and these names, with the influences which they openly or covertly represented, had much to do with securing its passage. Autong them were the following: John C. Fremont, who led the list, as was appropriate, for the project was his; G. M. Docge, former Congressman from Iowa, subsequently connected with the Union Pacific and the Crédit Mobilier, and now principal agent of Col. Thomas A. Scott to secure a subsidy for the Texas Pacide; J. J. Noah, confidential man of Senator Spencer; J. D. Cameron, son of the Senator; A. C. Osborn, supposed to represent the Florida Senator of that name; C. C. Poole, brother of Senator Poole of North Carolina; J. H. Oglesby, confidential financial agent of Senator, now Governor, Kellogg of Louisiana; Richard C. Parsons, Marshal the Supreme Court; J. R. West, then Senator-elect from Louisiana: H. C. Warmoth, John Ray, J. T. Ludeling, M. A. Southworth, and three of four other members of Warmoth's Louisiana Ring; M. E. Hunter, ex-member then and member now from Indiana; W. Flanagan, son of the Texas Senator; Powell Clayton, then Governor and Senator-elect from Arkansas; E. W. Rice, special friend of the lowa Senator and of the Secretary of War; Timothy Hurley, South Carolina legislator and jobber; A. P. K. Safford, Governor of Arizona, and intimate friend of Senator Stewart; J. B. Chaves, Delegate from New-Mexico; J. W. Forney, editor of The Philadelphia Press; E. M. Davis, Governor of Texas; A. J. Hamilton, Reconstruction Governor of Texas; Rush R. Sloan of Ohio; J. N Goodwin, famous in connection with the Northern Pacific lobby, and a number of persons put forward by Senators and leading Congressmen as their representatives. Besides this class of men there were a few prominent capitalists and railroad men, lik-Thos. A. Scott, Marshall O. Roberts, and H. McCul-

Before the bill passed, information was quietly circulated among the members in the Scott interest that the great railroad king would get control of the charter and would form a construction company to build the road, into which he would put his friends the incorporators met in New-York to organize the company. The scheme to capture the charter and sacrifice Fremont was known to the old directors and stockholders of the Memphis and El Paso Company, and apprehensions were entertained that there would be manifestations of excited opposition that might colminate in violence. To guard against this a squad of policemen was sent for and stationed at the doors leading to the room where the corporators met. The Scott interest triumphed at the meeting by efforts which stock operators will understand, and Fremont was ousted. Soon after, a charter granted by the Legislature of California to the California and Texas Railroad Company was purchased or in some way got possession of, and under it the promised Construction Company was organized. Some of the railroad corporations were "let in" and others were left out.

"CONVEYING" TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS A MILE In its main purpose this Construction Company very closely resembled the infamous Crédit Mobilier. It was an inside ring to bleed the railroad company by obtaining twice as much money for building the road as the work was worth. In its details, however, it differed considerably in plan from its proto type. A contract was made with the railroad com-pany to construct the whole line of road for \$40,000 per mile. The estimated average cost per mile was \$20,000, so that the construction ring figured out a profit on the whole 1,700 miles of \$34,000,000. A portion of the stock of the Construction Company, like that of the Crédit Mobilier, was placed " where it would do most good." The lobbyists and their tools in Congress pretended to pay cash for it, and if brought to book by an investigating committee will assert that they bought it with their own money. If whole truth comes out, it will probably found that they got it for nothing, just as the Crédit Mobilier men got theirs, but in a different way. For every dollar paid in for stock a land grant bond of the railroad of the same amount, being seven per cent interest, was given the stockholder. In the cases of members of Congress or their representatives, it is said that the lobby arranged matters in this way; the land grant bonds issued for the stock apportioned to them were hypothecated with certain Pennsylvania banks for money to pay for the stock, and the paidup shares were handed over, so that not a cent of the money of the recipients of these shares ever left their pockets. The construction stock was therefore as much a bribe as the Crédit Mobilier shares. In one case it was paid for in land grant bonds, and in the other in dividends.

A responsible person in this city asserts that Gen. Butler at one time owned several hundred thousand dollars' worth of this construction stock, and that he has personal knowledge of such ownership. The stock is not worth 20 cents on a dollar in Wall-st. Should the bill subsidizing the Texas Pacific by guaranteeing the interest on its bonds to the extent of \$40,000 a mile pass, the stock would run up to par at once, for the indorsed bonds would be turned over to the Construction Company as fast as issued, and would speedily go a long way above par, because the enormous profits to be earned by the Company under its contract with the railroad would make it the best stock in the market. The magnitude of the job Congress is asked to give life to may be understood from these facts.

The manner in which the Memphis and El Paso stockholders and creditors were treated when the nsolidation was effected is too long a story to be told here. One or two things, however, may be seem to fully justify its continuance upon the plan now

NEW-YORK, MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 1875.-WITH SUPPLEMENT.

mentioned. Over \$1,700,000 of the valid claims against the El Paso Company are still repudiated, and those that were settled were paid in Texas lands at the rate of \$8 an acre, equally good land lying immediately adjoining being worth only \$1 an acre.

PUTTING THE SOUTH AT THE MERCY OF CONGRESS.

THE HOUSE REPUBLICAN CAUCUS-LEADING REPUB-LICANS TAKING NO PART-OBJECT OF THE PRO-POSED SUSPENSION OF THE TWO-THIRDS BULE-AN ENDEAVOR TO PLACE THE SOUTH UNDER IMMEDIATE CONTROL OF THE PRESENT CONGRESS. IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

Washington, Jan. 24 - The caucus of Republimembers of the House last evening was attended by about two-thirds of those who had a right to participate, and was managed by the carpet-baggers, assisted by such men as Cessna, Ward of Illinois, Gen. Butler, and others of like caliber. The leading men of the House, including Blaine, Dawes, Foster, and others, who have heretofore shaped the policy of the party and directed legislation, took no part in the deliberations, although some of them were present. The only definite result of the meeting was an agreement to move to-morrow to suspend the rules, in order to amend the rules in such a manner as to prevent the defeat of measures by dilatory motions or by what is known as filibustering. Under the present rules, when a motion to suspend the rules is made on Monday or on one of the last ten days of the session, and the previous question is ordered, only two or three dilatory motions are in order before a direct vote must be taken on the question itself. This puts it into the power of two-thirds of the members of the House to carry any measure in spite of all the opposition that the remaining onethird may make. On other days than those named dilatory motions are always to order, and a minority large enough to call the Yeas and Nays has it in its power to block legislation or to force the majority to modify its measures. The proposed new rule is to prevent this, and to give a bare majority of the House the power to force through a measure at any time it sees fit, just as two-thirds can now on Mondays and the last ten days of the session.

The direct object of this new rule is to give the Republicans who favor the Civil Rights bill and further legislation for the reconstruction of the south the power to pass those measures at any time, which they fear they cannot now do for want of a two-thirds vote. This must be done this session if at all, since the next House will put its foot down on all repressive legislation affecting the South. In elections, set its seal of disapproval upon the Republican party and its policy, especially toward the South, the carpet-baggers and their supporters propose to force upon the country, during the few weeks they remain in power, the very measures that the people have decided they do not want, and to do this they propose to curtail still further the powers of the minority in the flouse. The Democrats are very indignant at this proposed action, which they consider an attack upon their rights, although, in fact, the Republicans, who are to be in the minority in the next House, are likely to suffer most and longest, should such a rule be The carpet-baggers who managed the caucus are by no means sure of getting a two-thirds vote for their new rule to-morrow, as some of the best and most influential Republicans in the House will vote in the negative. A proposition to make appropriations for the army for two years was discossed but not agreed upon.

DREAD OF STERRING THE CURRENCY QUES-

THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE CONCLUDE TO TAKE NO AUTION-A FEAR THAT IF THE DISCUS-SION IS AGAIN AWARENED IT WILL NOT EASILY BE

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.-Without formally approvng or disapproving the recommendations made by the President in his recent message announcing his signature of the Senate cancus Carrency bill, the Senate Committee on Finance has concluded not to take any further action on this question this session. The trouble is that, whilet he Committee might agree upon some supplementary measure which would actually turn the face of the country toward specie payments, it would be impossible to get such a measure through either House, and its introduction would only result in reopening the debate which ocenpied so much of the time of Congress last session,

of the imperfections of the cancus bill, will not take the responsibility of bringing the currency question before the Senate again during this Congress. FOME LIGHT ON PACIFIC MAIL. FABLE CONCERNING 52 PIGS-INDICATIONS THAT THERE WERE 52 INSTEAD OF 50 MEMBERS OF

CONGRESS THAT GOT \$1,000 EACH-THREE MEM-

BERS OF THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE EN-

and with no better results. The Committee, there-

fore, while a majority of its members are fully aware

TANGLED IN THE ALLEGORY. IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.-Col. R. B. Lewin is now a guest at the house of Col. Donn Piatt, editor of The Washington Capital, and this fact, together with the known intimacy of the two, gives peculiar significance to a statement made in The Capital to-day. After repeating the story told to the Ways and Means Committee by Samuel Ward about the dinner which was once made for the King of Spain of

the ears of 52 pigs, the article continues:

And the Committee laughed, as many have since lauched at this little story, so strangely introduced under oath in a grave investigation. But that merry committee and the many commentators since failed to see the moral of that fable. The failure cames in on the fact that they have not studied well the evidence already given in this investigation. Had they done so they would have found that in Mr. Kennedy's testimony it was stated that when the corrupt subsidy was making its desperate struggle through the Hause, Mr. Riggs, the hanker, was called upon 10 farming \$0.000 in \$1.000 mills. Now Uncle Samuel Ward knew that the exact amount used in this way was \$2 \$1.000 mills. Now then, for the hunery King of Spain lost in the woods read Steckwell of the Pacific Main; for the cook read Richard B. Irwin, and for the \$2 carless pigs read \$2 members of the House, and the moral of the fable comes to the surface. Taking eight of the Committee into the gallery of the Hause, the cook can count them out \$2 carless pigs (M. C./s), less three left in the Committee. the ears of 52 pigs, the article continues:

In other words, Piatt asserts that Col. Irwin cen point out to the Ways and Means Committee 52 nembers of Congress who each got \$1,000 of the Pacific Mail corruption fund, and that three of them are members of the Ways and Means Committee itself. The Committee surely cannot now avoid recalling Piatt, and making him tell where he got this

SURVEYS WEST OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH MERIDIAN.

VALUE OF THE SURVEY FOR GOVERNMENT PUR-POSES-OPINION OF GEN. VON MOLTKE.

Washington, Jan. 22.—Secretary Belknap has sent to Congress a letter from Lieut. Wheeler, in reference to the continuance of the geographical explorations and surveys west of the one bundredth merid ian, with the earnest recommendation that the request for liberal appropriations for this survey may receive the careful consideration of the Committee on Military Affairs. Lieut. Wheeler suggests the propriety of pre senting the subject directly to the Committee on Military Affairs, inasmuch as it is one closely bearing upon the military service of the Government. He believed that nearly all the commanding generals in the late war would testify that lack of correct topographical maps often seriously embarrassed military operations and caused a much greater expense than the cost of mapping the country. Besides this, in times of peace the economic bearing of the survey upon the operations of the military establishments, and incidentally those of the Indian Department and public land surveys, would

in progress. Scientific men and organizations, both i this country and abroad, have given the matter their hearty approval, showing that the work is one of popmar as well as governmental interest. Attention is called to the following letter from Count von Moltke Others of a similar character have been received from

others of a similar character have been received from different sources:

[Translates.]

After a prolonged absence from B-itiu I am only now enabled to answer your esteemed favor of June 4, 1874.

First, allow me to return my most grateful acknowledgments for the alvance sneets of a series of atlay maps sent me, which are to be published as the result of your explorations and surveys. This is a work of great value, the first evidences of which we have an opportunity of becoming acquainted with through your kindsess. The preparation of a topographical map of North America, wherein areas are expressed on a scale as large as 1250000; is an undertaking the extect of which the specialist cannot fail fully to appreciate.

Schince with acknowledge lis great obligations to the War Department of the United States of North America for undertaking this nomeness task, requiring so much time and expense. It is undoubtedly in entire accordance with the object of this great undertaking that, out of the hare surince of the continents, such mutted areas of which at the present time more special examination is made should be first selected for delineation. It is interesting to know the methods employed in producing the sacets of the secontapaical work west of the one bundredth increain which are intended for profleation. It is septently workly of commendation that a projection has been chosen which admits of the continuance of the reneral map without distortion, and equally praiseworkly is the arrangement by which the continuance of the reneral map without distortion, and equally praiseworkly is the arrangement by which the continuance of the reneral map without distortion, and equally praiseworkly is the arrangement by which the continuance of the reneral map without distortion, and equally praiseworkly is the arrangement by which the continuance of the reneral map without distortion of the continuance of the reneral map without distortion of the continuance of the reneral map without distortion of the continuance of the renera

In conclusion Lieut, Wheeler adds:

All of the principal nations of Europe have had in operation for excended intervals surveys organized for the accurate mapping of their interior possessions, conducted in Russia, Prinsia, Austrin, France, England, Spain, Switz-trand, and Italy, under the War Departments of these Governments, while in this country it is notable that accurate maps of comparatively small areas, even in its timely-scattled parts, exist, a fact in strange contrast with the accivements of our Government in interior works where safiled seven file lands has been directed to the emendation of practical results.

CURRENT TOPICS AT THE CAPITAL. THE WORK BEFORE THE SENATE. WASHINGTON, Jan. 24, 1875.

The recent order of the Senate provides that after the call for resolutions shall have passed, business on the calcudar shall, during the morning hour, be called for by Committees in the order in which they stand on the list, and so from day to day; but no Committee shall have more than one day in succession. Under this order the calendar will soon be cleared of a large number of bills, many of which have been there since last session. Thus far about 25 bills from the Committees on Finance, Commerce, and Military Affairs have been acted upon, and the next call will be upon the Naval Committee, which has but eight or ten bills. Then follows, in the order named, the Judiciary Committee 14 bills, Committee on Post-Offices and Post-Roads 10, Committee on Public Lands 20, on Private Land Claims 4. Indian Affairs 13, Pensions 33, Revolutionary Claims 5, Claims 31, District of Columbia II, Fatents 5, Profic Buildings and Grounds 7, Territories 6, Railroads 4, Mines and Mining 3. Other minor Committees have one or two bills each, making an aggregate of about 250 bills upon the calendar.

IMPORTANT DECISION OF A LAND CLAIM. The Secretary of the Interior yesterday overruled a motion to review his decision of 27th of October last, that the action of the Register and the Receiver, in adjusting the claim to lands under the Vigil and St. Vrain grant in New-Mexico, is subject to appeal to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, under the act of 4th of July, 1836, reorganizing the General Land Office. This claim was long urged for 4 000,000 acres of land, but Congress, in 1860 ratified it to the extent only of 23 square leagues, or 97,000 acres, to be granted on proofs satisfactory to the Register and Receiver. The adjustment was satisfactory to the claimant, but, being resisted by settlers, occasioned a controversy, in which both sides strengously contested. The matter is now decided in accordance with the practice of the Department during the past 16 years. The amount involved in this case is very large, and the decision is also of importance, because applicable to many similar cases now pending. PROBABLE ACQUITTAL OF STOWELL RESPECT-

ING THE CADETSHIP SALE.

ems to be no doubt that the House Committee on Naval Affairs will make a unanimous report acquitting Representative Stowell of Virginia of the charge made by George W. Graham, that he had sold a naval cadetship through the agency of Graham, and received \$1,000 out of the \$1,700 which Graham obtained from Dr. Beatty, the stepfather of the boy Schoolcraft, who received the appointment on the nomination of Stowell. The evidence in no particular shows guilt on the part of the accused. SLENDER PROSPECT FOR RAILROAD SUBSIDIES

The Senate Committee on Railroads, at a special meeting held yesterday, decided to report adversely on the Northern Pacific Railroad bill and all others referred to them proposing Government aid or subsidy for railroads, with the exception of Scott's Texas Pacific Railroad bill, which was not acted upon, but laid over until Mondas.

WASHINGTON NOTES. WASHINGTON, Jan. 24, 1875.

A petitioner before the Cours of Commissioners of Alabama Claims alleged: "He was not at any time mentioned in the petition, nor at any other time or times actively or otherwise or in any way engaged in making or carrying on war against the United States or in aiding or abetting in any way, shape, or manner the so-called or abetting in any way, shape, or manner the so called.
Southern Confederacy, or any person or persons engaged in reherbour or making or carrying on war against the United States aforesaid." The court decides teat this is not sufficient. The petitioner states, in substance, that he was not gmity of the erime of freezon as defined by the Constitution, whereas the law expressly requires him to say that he had borne true alteriance to the United States during the period of the late rebellion. Without such declaration no claim is a Jimisaide.

The Interoceanic Commission, which was come time agreement of the late o

ago organized for the purpose of examining and reporting upon the most practicable route for the propose caual, are now awaiting an instrumental examination of caual, are now awaiting an instrumental examination of the lithmus of Panama, which is thought to be neces-sary for the purpose of demonstrating with exactness the information necessary to be obtained before a near approach can be made to a report upon the subject. This, it is thought, will not consume much time, and probably in the course of two months a report of the ex-amination now attempted will be in possession of the

The amount of iractional currency received from the printing division during the week ending yesterday was \$501.500; shipments of U.S. notes, \$3,766,360; the receipts of internal revenue yesterday were \$274,921; and for the month, \$6,768,618. The amount of bonds held by the U.S. Treasurer for the security of National bank circulation was \$384,458,600; and for public deposits, \$16,482,200. The amount of National bank notes received year-ray for redemption was \$549,036. The outstanding National bank circulation was \$549,036.

The House Committee on Indian Affairs have new refore them a copy of the act of the Cherokee Legisla ture authorizing the Cherokee delegation to negotiate with Government a loan of \$500,000, to be refunded ou of the proceeds of the Cherokee lands west of the Ar-kansas River and south of Kansas. It is represented that this ioan is rendered necessary to keep the Caero-kee people from suffering during the present Winter, in consequence of the destruction of their crops by entuch bugs and grasshoppers.

A spirited controversy is now going on in the General Land Office over a certain class of cases known as the Las Animas Lund Grant Derivative Claims, Colorado, in which a late prominent official of that trunch of the public service appears as counsel for a number of persons who appeared under his order from the decisions of the Register and Receiver to the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

The Committee of Ways and Means will not consider the

subject of taxing tea and coffee, &c., until they snall have received the bill in course of preparation by Secretary Bristow. The "Little Tariff" bill, which recently passed Congress, will not be sent to the President for his aproval until Mouday. There is no doubt he will

WORKMEN OUT OF EMPLOYMENT.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 24.—Nearly 1,000 persons have been thrown out of employment by the closing of Landenburger's hosiery milis at Frankford, caused by

FRENCH POLITICS.

CONFERENCE OF PARTY LEADERS. THE FIRST APPEAL OF PRESIDENT MACMAHON TO MODERATE MEN-THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF THE CONFERENCE COMING TO A CONCLUSION-WHAT HAS BEEN GAINED.

ROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] PARIS, Jan. 6.-Taking advantage of the temporary closing of the Versailles theatre, Marshal Mac-Mahon improvised some private political meetings last week. Seeing that a year had passed with no constitution for the Septennat, and seeing that the majority that begot it had gone to pieces. he invited fourteen Deputies to come and talk over matters with him. Of these fourteen gentlemen, three, Dafaure, Léon Say, and Casimir-Périer, are of the Left Center, three are of the moderate Right (Legitimists), one is a moderate Bonapartist, the remaining seven are of the Right Center (Orleanist). There were eleven Monarchists to three Left Center Republicans. This is the first time he has put in practice that "appeal to moderate men of all parties," mentioned at Lille last September. It is a small beginning, but it is a beginning,

and not wholly without promise. It is true not a single member of the Left (Republican proper) was invited, but one of the best accredited ministerial organs finds it fit to apologize for the omission—though the apology is an odd one: "If the Left is not represented in the conference it is because the President of the Republie could not well call to it political men with whom he has never been in relation." Among the company were the inspiring Duke de Broglie, of course, and two of the Orleanists members of the Cabinetthe Duke Decazes (who is the able one), and the Minister of the Interior.

The conference met three times on as many days

last week. The comprehensive question before this extra-parliamentary House was how to pass to a more or less long road from the blind alley in which parties now turn. The solution by dissolution was, if possible, to be avoided;-the question was, how to change the discordant conservative forces of the Assembly into a marching majority. This implied the question-what line of march can a so composed majority follow? The Moderate Legitimists consent to a personal Septennat; the Orleanists will permit an impersonal Septennat; the Moderate Republicans demand a Republican Septennat. The comparatively rational Right are ready to "organize the powers" of the Marshal, on condition that the day he dies or resigns, that organization dies, and the Assembly, recovering its sovereign Constitutional rights, can proclaim the monarchy. The Orleanist Dake de Broglie and his followers want to organize the powers in such a way that, in case of the President's death, a substitute (the Duke d'Aumale, for example, be becoming President of the Senate they desire to fabricate) be at hand to continue the system of Government till Nov. 20, 1880. This ingenious manner of defining indefiniteness and transitorily establishing instability, is a prolongation of the Duke de Broglie's "Truce of Parties" till 1880, for the purpose, meantime, of combatting the two great National parties of Republicans and Imperialists, and constructing a royal road across the face and eyes of the country, for the joyous advent of King

Louis Philippe II. The essential characteristic of the Republican Septennat is set forth in the Casimir-Périer proposition, and lies in a regulated provision for the transmission of the powers from the person of MacMahon, if he die or voluntarily retire before 1880, and beyond the date of 1880. Thus the Republicans of the Left Center propose, (and they are sustained by Gambetta and all old Republicans but a few Extremists) along with the accepted Presidency for seven years of its present Executive chief, a Government whose existence shall not hang by the thread of one man's life, or be cut short at noon of Nov. 20, 1880. They seek to institute an order of policy, not to "constitute" a temporary party machine. The Government of France to-day is republican. They do not ask that it be formally and needlessly proclaimed such: they insist only that it be legalized as such. It lives. They demand that its legitimate right to live be formally recognized. They do not make the ide demand that the Logislature hedge it about \$2.50; Aurera of Chechman, \$2.50; Giobe of Checago, by artificial laws against the natural law of selection, and all the ill chances that it must meet with in the struggle for life. They only protest that to ignore it, except openly to combat it, to choke its voice and hamper its sturdy limbs is not giving it a fair chance of life and growth in its own French home. How moderate is their demand is patent by that clause in the Casimir-Périer proposition which distinctly protects the right of revising the Republican constitution, of which it offers the elements, and provides for the free exercise of that right.

The three schemes were talked about for three days together by the invited delegates of the Moderates and of the two Centers in the hearing of the Marshal Duke, and with dissertations from the subtle mouth of the inspiring Duke de Broglie. But the conference broke up without conclusion. there is a slight sign of promise to the hopeful. It is something gained that the Marshal, who "could not properly invite the men of the Left, with whom he had never been in relation," should at this late day ask to be put in relation with men of the Left Center, with whom, up to last Wednesday, his political relations have been equalty foreign. is said that the "honest" soldier was agreeably surprised and favorably impressed by the gentlemanly manner and apparently rather sensible remarks of his three Left Center guests. Nobody ever sincerely accused MacMahon of being a great statesman or a general; but it is only this excess of French party spirit that denies him a decent modicun of common sense.

The conference, whether, as is said, of Mac-Mahon's own initiative, or, as believed, of the Duke de Broglie's suggestion, indicated a willingness to learn -at any rate seems to have evoked a capacity for learning pleasantly surprising to the liberal world. There is a visible certainty or two. If the monarchist President of the Republic has not gone far toward republicanism during the holidays, he has moved. To invite to a conference, as he did, unwillingly convicted converts from royalty to republicanism, is a curiously significant phenome-The President is borne involuntarily by the fatally drifting force of things toward republican democracy. The wails that issue in these days from the organs of the Monarchical parties do, in their honest dolefulness, cheerfully inspire the Republican hearts.

PRESIDENT MACMAHON'S MESSAGE.

THE MEASURES WRICH HE URGES THE ASSEMBLY TO ADOPT-NECESSITY FOR A SECOND CHAM-BER-THE RIGHT OF DISSOLVING THE ASSEMBLY DEMANDED-TRANSMISSION OF POWER,

The following is the text of the message sent on the 6th of January by President MacMahon to the French Assembly :

The moment has arrived when you are about to ap-

The moment has arrived when you are about to approach the discussion of the Constitutional bills. The Labors of the Committee are complete, and public opinion would, with difficulty, understand any further delay. I am desirous of seeing this necessary complement promptly made to the power which I exercise in virtue of the law of the 20th of November.

I have instructed my Government to ask you to place the bill for a Second Chamber on the order of the day for one of your next sittings. This is an institution which appears to be most imperatively demanded by the Conservative interest, the defense of which you have intrasted to me, and which I shall never desert. The relations between the Assembly afid the power emanning from It are easy at the present time. It might, perhaps, be otherwise on the day wase, having placed a term to your insistin, you would give way to a new Assembly. Conflicts may then arise, and in order to put an end to them the intervention of a Second Chamber, affording by its composition solid guarantees, is indispensable. The necessity would not be been great even if to

rettle these conflicts you might think it desirable, as my Government asks, to arm the executive power with the right of having recourse to the judgment of the country by a dissolutions—The employment of this extreme right would be perilous, and I should hesitate to exercise it, if, under such or citical circumstances, the executive power did not feel itself supported by the assistance of a moderating Assembly. I have the satisfaction of thinking that upon this point I am at one with the majority of the Assembly. If in the course of your deliberations my Government present certain amendments to the bill of the Committee, it will be in order to render its adoption more-casy.

Another point more controverted, but which must not be less promptly settled, is that which relates to the transmission of power when I shall cease to exercise it. Here my intervention must be of a more reserved character, Insamuch as my personal responsibility can in no case be engaged at the expiration of the 20 h of November, 1830. It ought to be regulated in such a manner as to leave to the Assemblies of the future full and complete flower to determine the form of Government in France. It is upon the condition that from the present time until then the congretation of all moderate parties may continue secured, for the work of national recovery which I am charged to pursue.

Intuch less importance, and I believe the country is of my opinion, as to the question as to what ought to be done if, by the will of Providence, life should be taken from me before the expiration of my mission. The National sovereignty does not die, and its representatives will always be able to make known its will. A wish has been expressed that in that event nothing should be changed until the year 1880. In the actual course of things, you will judge waterier there is not reason to complete by this arrangement the grantantees of stability promised by the law of the 20 h of November. This is a point to be debated and settled between you in a spirit of conciliation.

could disturb the well-being of the present, and I am certain that she awaits an agreement among you.

Such are the views, suggested by the study of the real wants of the country made by me during the year which has just passed away. The interviews I have been able to have with numerous members of the Assembly lead me to hope that a mejority may be found to sanction them. It is my dearest wisd, and one which in the interest of the Assembly liked I haplare you to realize. The anxieties to France, the perils by which she is best, point out your duty. As far as I am concerned I believe I have done mine fully and completely. Whatever may be the tesus of these debates, I rely upon the justice of my country for the appreciation of my efforts.

THE FIRE RECORD.

CATHOLIC CHURCH DESTROYED IN HARTFORD.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, VALUED AT \$150,000, BURNED TO THE GROUND-THE WALLS ONLY LEFT STAND-

HARTFORD, Jan. 24.-St. Patrick's Church in this city, the Ray. James Hugues, Vicar-General of the Catholic Diocese, pastor, was destroyed by fire early this morning. It was a freestone edifice capable of scating 2300 people, and was dedicated in Docember 1851. Its original cost was \$40,000, and with improve walls are standing, but will probably have to be taken down. The fire broke out soon after 3 o'clock a. m., and attracted an immense crowd of spectators, who watered with eager interest as the flames er-pt up the tower and spire, a distance of 200 feet, and finally enveloped the ever witnessed in Hartford. Among the valuable church property destroyed, which included all the sacred enoblems of worship, was imported music valued at a large sum, which the pastor had secured during a period of over 20 years. All the valuable buildings adjoining—the convent, school nouse, etc.—were unto lared. The insurance is as tollows; On the building, in the Lina of Hartford \$15.00; North British, \$5.00; Premix of Hartford, \$15.00; North British, \$5.00; Evenix of Hartford, \$15.00; North British, \$10.00; Lineashire, \$5.00; on the large organ, North British, \$5.00; on the small organ, Springfeld Fire, \$300—grand total of insurance, \$5.5.00. The building will be replaced at once. The origin of the fire is his some doubt, the insurance people believing that there was some defect in the formure flows and the pastor thinking it was the work of an incendiary. ever witnessed in Hartford. Among the valuable thinking it was the work of an incendiary.

AT PEKIN, ILL.-LOSS ABOUT \$60,000. PEORA, Ill., Jan. 24.-Early Saturday morning a fire broke out to the extensive cultivator and waron ing rapidly, the building and contents were consumed In addition to valuable machinery, there were over 1,500 The bullding was owned by L. Luppen, and was valued at \$20,000; no insurance. The loss on machinery is \$20,000, insured \$2,000 in each of the following offices: Lyconing of Pennsylvania, Farmers' of York, Peon, Peoples' of Memphis, and the Allemania of Pattsburgh. The stock was valued at \$40,000; insured for \$13,000, as tollows: Citizens' of Missouth, \$2,500; Germania of Rochester, \$1,500; Commercial of St. Luns, \$3,000; Memphis, \$1,500; Commercial of St. Luns, \$3,000; Memphis and State of Adilan, \$2,000. One hundred and twenty-five men are thrown out of employment by this fire.

THE ST. LOUIS SAFE FACTORY FIRE-LOSS, \$27,000 St. Louis, Jan. 24.-The total loss by the burning of Beard & Brothers' safe manufactory Friday night is \$27,000. The property is insured for \$35,000, as follows: In the American Contral of St. Louis, \$19,000; Liu, \$2,500; Kentucky, \$2,500; German of Freeport, of St. Louis, \$2,500.

AT ATHOL, MASS.-LOSS, \$25,000,

SPRINGFIELD, Jan. 24.-The Miller's River Manufacturing Company's woolen mill at Athel, which was burned Saturday morning, causing a loss of \$25,000 was insured for \$15,000. The insurance losses include the following: Cirlzons' Company of Newark, on the stock, \$1,700; Home of New York, \$1,000; Alta of Hart ford, \$1,000; On the building and macadinery: Æana \$1,700; Hartford, \$1,700; North British and Mercantile \$1,700.

AT FORT LEAVENWORTH, KAS.-LOSS, \$30,000. Sr. Louis, Jan. 24.-Twelve of the large stables at Fort Leavenwooth, Kas., were burned yesterday Tue loss is about \$.0,000. Seven hundred horses were in the buildings, but they were all rescued without barm. The fire was the work of an incending.

AT HUNTER'S POINT-LOSS \$60,000.

A fire broke out about 9:30 p. m. Saturday night in the varnish factory of A. G. Mandel in Hunter's Point, L. I., near the Trirty-fourth-st. Forry. From the time the fire was first discovered the flames made rapid headway, and the building, with its stock of very inlammable material, was entirely destroyed. The originof the fire is not known, as no one had been in the building since 5 p. m. The direction of the wind, which fortunately was from the west, prevented the flames from reaching six other varnish factories which were in close proximity. The the burned until after midnight, though it was then under the control of the Fire Department. The foreman of the factory, Mr. Vail, stated that a very large stock of varnish, 2,000 barrels, had been on hand, which, with the other property destroyed, was estimated to be worth between \$0,000 and \$30,000. The only property saved was 25 barrels of turpentine and 260 empty barrels. It was understood that the loss was covered by insurance, though the amount and the companies concerned could not be ascertained. At one time the Loug Island City Gas Works, immediately adjoining, were thought to be in danger, and the superntendent, James O'Reilly, let all the gas out of the refort through one of the mains. tunately was from the west, prevented the flames from

IN CRAWFORD, N. J.-TWO CHILDREN BURNED TO DEATH,

John Gleason's house, in Crawford, N. J., took fire on Friday afternoon, while all the family were absent, excepting two children, aged respectively four and two years. The house was destroyed and the chil dre n perished. Their bodies fell to pieces when lifted. Giesson is an employé of the Central Ratiroad. As he did not come home when expected, his wife went to learn the cause of his detention, and during her absence

IN THIS CITY-LOSS \$6,500. There was a fire in the three-story brick

ouliding No. 189 Eighth-ave., occupied by G. Harris as a clething warehouse and dwelling, yesterday. The building, which was owned by E. C. Wheeler, was much damaged, and but little of the stock was saved. The damage to the stock and building was estimated at \$6,500. The cause of the fire was unknown.

IN BROOKLYN.

The brick stables in the rear of No. 169 Smith-st., owned by Courad Wess, were damaged by fire on Saturday to the amount of \$300; insured for full amount in the United States Insurance Company. About 8 p. m. on Saturday, a fire broke out in th

About 8 p. m. on Satarday, a are broke out in the tenement house No. 163 Throop-ave. Brooklyn, but was quickly extinguished by Sergeant Buckley. The damage to the building was about \$150, insured in the furniture of Louis Schuo was \$400, insured in the Pheenix Insurance Company for \$300; damage to the rurniture of George Neilam \$50, insured in the Home Insurance Company.

A LEADING COLONIST FROZEN TO DEATH.

TOPEKA, Kan., Jan. 24.-Capt. H. A. White. leader of the Connecticut colony in Russell County, froze to death near his house during the recent severe cold spell on the plains.

GENERAL FOREIGN NEWS.

KING ALFONSO'S GOVERNMENT.

PROCLAMATIONS TO THE CARLISTS AND TO THE GOV-ERNMENT FORCES-AUTOGRAPH LEFTERS FROM KING ALFONSO TO THE EMPERORS OF GERMANY AND AUSTRIA AND TO THE KING OF ITALY.

MADRID, Saturday, Jan. 23, 1875. King Alfonso issued two proclamations to-day. One is addressed to the inhabitants of the Basque Provinces and Navarre. To them the King says that he longs for peace, but will fight for his rights; that he is the representative of the dynasty which their fathers swore to obey; that he is a Catholic, and will see that full justice is again done to the Church; and that, if they will lay down their arms, they will see prosperity revive in Cuba, and will regain the freedom they enjoyed under Queen Isabella. He offers full amnesty to all who comply with his terms.

The other proclamation is addressed to the army, from whom the King demands abnegation and

A conrier has arrived in this city bearing an autograph letter from King Alfonso to the Emperor William. He has similar letters for the Emperor of Austria and King of Italy, and will proceed from this city to Vienna and Rome.

ALFONSO PROCLAIMED KING BY CAPTAIN-GENERAL CONCHA.

HAVANA, Jan. 23 .- Alfonso was officially proclaimed King of Spain to-day by Captain-General Concha in public in presence of the civil and military authorities. The ceremony took place in Isabella Park. The royal standard was displayed.

MADRID Jan. 24, 1875 King Alfonso in his two proclamations of yesterday promises to respect the facros of the Basquo Provinces, and exhorts those officers whom the revolution induced to join Don Carlos, to return to their comrades in the Array of Spain.

The King to-day reviewed 40,000 troops at Peralta, and was warmly cheered by the soldiers as they

The French authorities on the Spanish frontier have seized a convoy of arms destined for the Carlists. LETTER FROM KING ALFONSO TO QUEEN VICTORIA.

Lospon, Monday, Jan. 25-6 A. M. An autograph letter from Alfonso was delivered to Queen Victoria on Saturday, formally advising her of his accession to the throne, and assuring her of his intention to rule over Spain on constitutional principles. A similar notification has been received

THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENT. TIME FOR REASSEMBLING - GARBALDI WARMLY GREETED AT CIVITA VECCHIA AND AT ROME. ROME, Saturday, Jan. 23, 1878.

The Italian Parliament will reassemble on Monday next. Gen. Garibaldi, who is a member of the Chamber of Diputies, is expected to reach Civita Vecchia to-day, from Caprera, on his way to this cuy.

ROME, Jan. 24, 1875. Gen. Garibaldi landed at Civita Vecchia yesterday vening. He was received with the most enthusiastic demonstrations by the people, and conducted through the town by a torchlight procession.

The General arrived to-day in Rome. He was met at the railway station by the Mayor and members of the municipality, and cerdially welcomed to the city. Several workmen's societies formed a procession with bands and escorted the old here to his hotel. Immense crowds lined the streets and cheered with the wildest enthusiasm as the General passed. No disorder of any kind marred the demonstration.

MONTENEGRO AND TURKEY. TWELVE THOUSAND MONTENEGRIN TROOPS ORDERED

TO THE FRONTIER. VIENNA, Saturday, Jan. 23, 1878. The Montegrin Government has ordered its sub-

jects residing abroad to return home. Twelve thousand Montenegrin troops have been ordered to the A COMPROMISE EFFECTED. VIENNA, Jan. 24, 1878.

The Montenegria trouble has been compromised. The citizens of Montenegro who are implicated in the Podgoritza massacre are to be tried at Cettigne, the evidence of the Turkish witnesses in the case will be taken at the frontier town of Speech.

THE TRANSIT OF VENUS. SUCCESSFUL BRITISH OBSERVATIONS IN RODRIGUEZ ISLAND.

Washington, Jan. 24.—The Transit of Venus Commission received at 8 o'clock this morning, through the Smithsonian Institution, a telegram from Prof. Airy of Greenwich Observatory. The ingress and egress of Venus was well observed from the stations in Redriguez Island by Neale, Hoggao, and Burton. Nine Jansen plates and 58 sun pictures were obtained.

GRIEVANCES OF CANADIAN TEA IMPORTERS. OTTAWA, Jan. 23 .- A deputation of tea inporters from Ontario and Quebec waited on the Finance Minister and the Minister of Customs and asserted that unless the old 10 per cent tariff on tens imported from the United States were reimposed, the whole of the direct trade between China and Canada would be diverted to New-York. The Canadian importers are now importing from Chian to New-York, where they keep their ing from Chiun to New-York, where they keep their goods in bond ready to take advantage of a rise in the American market. When a rise occurred in Canada, American importers immediately flooded our markets and lowered the prices; but when the American market rose, the Canadam importers could not send their reas over from Canada in consequence of the American 10 per cent tariff. Mr. Cartwright promised to take the matter into consideration, but said the first and most important duty was to see what the effect would be on

FOREIGN NOTES.

HAVANA, Jan. 23 .- One hundred and fortyeight Sisters of Charity, who were expelled from Mexico, arrived here vesterday on the way to F abox.

Mexico, Jan. 17 .- The Diario (official) denies debt, remarking that such a contract never will be signed. the signing of any document recognizing the English

GENERAL POLITICAL NEWS. A CONGRESSIONAL VACANCY FILLED IN

ILLINOIS. CHICAGO, Ill., Jan. 24.-At a special election

yesterday in the 1st Congressional District, B. G. Caulfield (Dem.), Congressman-elect from that district, was elected to fill the vacancy in the present Congress caused by the death of John B. Rice. There was a very light vote, and no opposition to Mr. Caulfield.

EFFORTS TO REINSTATE SHERIFF CROSBY AT VICKSBURG.

Vicksburg, Miss., Jan. 24.-A movement is on foot to make Crosby's bond, on condition that he gets out of the way and puts an acceptable deputy in the ofdet of the way and puts an acceptable deputy in the of-fice, who will have full charge. Most of the citizen-strongly condemn the project to make the bond, believ-ing Flaussan to be the legally-elected Sheriff and that he ought to be sustained in the courts.

A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT.

HOW HARD THIS WOULD BE ON SHEPHERD. To the Editor of The Iribune.

SIR: I saw your notice about the bill drawn by Mr. O'Conor for the New-York Legislature to compel Tweed to disgorge some of his plunder. Is not the precedent a dangerous one ! Might not a new Congress pass a similar act which would interfere with the honest pass a similar act which would interfere with the honest carnings of Mr. Alex. B. Shepherd! Or, might noteven a vastly higher personage be attacked after he was out of office—if he ever goes out! If Mr. O'Conor's views prevail, it will be dangerous for a man to attempt to ornament his native city, for he will not only be manigned, but lose the resums of his patient industry and financial skill.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 23, 1875.

AN EARTHQUAKE REPORTED IN CALIFORNIA. SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 24.—Dispatches from Butte, Plumas, and Sierra Counties report that a beavy carthquake was feit at a c'clock this morning.